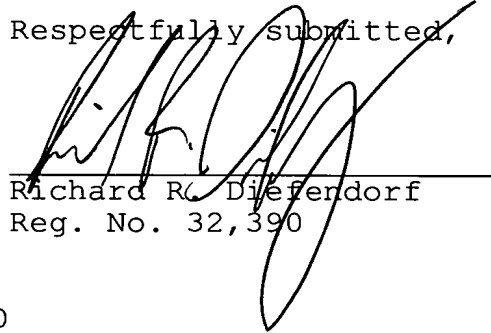


REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are being made in order to improve the form of the claims for examination and eliminate multiple claim dependencies.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard R. Diefendorf  
Reg. No. 32,390

April 3, 2001

EVENSON, McKEOWN, EDWARDS  
& LENAHA, P.L.L.C.  
1200 G Street, N.W., Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20005  
Telephone No.: (202) 628-8800  
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

RRD/msy

0001570 040001  
T02040" 02542000

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In each claim appearing below, deletions are bracketed and additions are underlined.

1. (Amended) [Synchronizer] A synchronizer ring[, having] comprising:

a ring body [(2)] which has a sliding region, [the sliding region being provided with] and

a wear-resistant tribological coating with which the sliding region is provided, [characterized in that]

wherein the tribological coating [(4)] is a thermally sprayed coating which contains a maximum of approximately 40% by weight of a solid lubricant.

2. (Amended) [Synchronizer] The synchronizer ring according to Claim 1, [characterized in that] wherein the solid lubricant is titanium dioxide ( $\text{TiO}_2$ ), calcium fluoride ( $\text{CaF}_2$ ), hexagonal boron nitride (h-BN), graphite, lead (Pb) or molybdenum sulphide ( $\text{MoS}_2$ ) or any desired mixture of these substances.

3. (Amended) [Synchronizer] The synchronizer ring according to Claim 1, [characterized in that] wherein the solid lubricant has a particle size of up to approximately 200  $\mu\text{m}$  [and preferably of between 50  $\mu\text{m}$  and 180  $\mu\text{m}$ ].

4. (Amended) [Synchronizer] The synchronizer ring according to [one of the preceding claims, characterized in that] Claim 1, wherein the thermally sprayed coating [(4)] furthermore contains tin and/or zinc and/or silicon and/or nickel and/or

manganese and/or copper and/or aluminum and/or one or more of their oxides and/or one or more of their carbides and/or one or more of their nitrides and/or carbon.

5. (Amended) [Synchronizer] The synchronizer ring according to [one of the preceding claims, characterized in that] Claim 1, wherein the thermally sprayed coating has a porosity of up to approximately 30%.

6. (Amended) [Process] A process for applying a wear-resistant tribological coating to [the] a sliding region of a synchronizer ring[, characterized in that] comprising thermally spraying the coating [(4) is thermally sprayed,] using a spraying compound which contains at most approximately 40% by weight of a solid lubricant [being used].

7. (Amended) [Process] The process according to Claim 6, [characterized in that] wherein the solid lubricant used is titanium dioxide ( $\text{TiO}_2$ ), calcium fluoride ( $\text{CaF}_2$ ), hexagonal boron nitride (h-BN), graphite, lead (Pb) or molybdenum sulphide ( $\text{MoS}_2$ ) or any desired mixture of these solid lubricants.

8. (Amended) [Process] The process according to Claim 6, [characterized in that a] wherein the spraying compound [is] used [which] furthermore contains tin and/or zinc and/or silicon and/or nickel and/or manganese and/or copper and/or aluminum and/or one or more of their oxides and/or one or more of their carbides and/or one or more of their nitrides and/or carbon.

9. (Amended) [Process] The process according to Claim 6, [characterized in that] wherein the coating is [applied in] thermally sprayed by at least one of a wire arc spraying process [and/or] and a flame spraying process.

10. (Amended) [Process] The process according to Claim 9, [characterized in that] wherein the spraying compound [used] is a filled wire which has a filling which contains a solid lubricant [and, if appropriate, tin and/or zinc and/or silicon and/or nickel and/or manganese and/or copper and/or aluminum and/or one or more of their oxides and/or one or more of their carbides and/or one or more of their nitrides and/or carbon].

11. (Amended) [Process] The process according to Claim [10, characterized in that a] 24, wherein the filled wire [with] has a covering of copper and/or tin and/or zinc and/or aluminum and/or their alloys [is used].

12. (Amended) [Process] The process according to [one of the preceding claims, characterized in that] Claim 6, wherein, in addition to a filled wire, a solid wire[, preferably made from CuAl8,] is used as the spraying compound.

13. (Amended) [Process] The process according to [one of Claims 6 to 12, characterized in that] Claim 6, wherein the sliding region [(3)], prior to the application of the coating [(4)], is roughened[, preferably sand-blasted] and degreased.

14. (Amended) [Process] The process according to [one of Claims 6 to 13, characterized in that] Claim 6, wherein the coating [(4)] is stamped after it has been applied.

0901570.040204